



Helicopter Sling Loading & Helicopter Internal Air Transport (HSL & HIAT Certification Programs)

What It Is:

Helicopter Sling Loading (HSL)...Slings attach the cargo to the helicopter for short-range transport.

Helicopter Internal Air Transport (HIAT)...“Internal” means HIAT is used for passengers and for any load — like food and ammunition — that travels inside the helicopter.

Why It's Needed:

Can the equipment being transported withstand the stresses of the flight environment, both inside and outside the helicopter? HSL and HIAT certifications give us the answer.

HSL Certification:

Natick is the Department of Defense agency for HSL certification. We run:

- engineering evaluations;
- strength tests;
- rigging tests;
- flight tests.

Helicopter IAT Certification:

Natick is the Army agency for HIAT certification. We run:

- engineering evaluations;
- strength tests;
- loading tests.

Benefits:

Soldier Safety...Certification ensures that the crews of the helicopters are never put at risk.

Approved Transport...Deploying certified equipment by HSL lets us reach areas that wouldn't be accessible by ground transportation.

Point of Contact:

Airdrop/Aerial Delivery Liaison
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